

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

In the Claims:

This Listing of Claims replaces all prior versions, and listings, of the claims in this application.

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) Rachidian anchoring device ~~with comprising:~~
~~a connecting rod;~~

first and second pedicular hooks (2, 4), permitting the emplacement and securement of a ~~the~~ connecting rod (3) at ~~the-a~~ level of each vertebra (9) of a vertebral column, wherein each pedicular hook (2, 4) ~~comprises~~includes:

securement means for the reception and blocking of a transverse rod (5) connecting said pedicular hooks (2, 4) together, and permitting compression between the two pedicular hooks (2, 4), ~~in a direction toward the center of the vertebral column.~~

2. (Previously Presented) Rachidian anchoring device according to claim 1, wherein said first pedicular hook (2) comprises a first osseous anchoring portion (6) and a first open body (7) for the reception and securement of the connecting rod (3) by a clip (14) having a first screw-threaded portion (38) coacting with a first pressure screw (15), said open body (7) comprising on its external surface a prolongation (24) provided with first securement means for the reception and blocking of the transverse rod (5) and the second pedicular hook (4) wherein said second pedicular hook comprises a second osseous anchoring portion (40) and a second open body (41) provided with second securement means for the reception and securement of the transverse rod (5).

3. (Previously Presented) Rachidian anchoring device according to claim 2, wherein the prolongation (24) is directed on the one hand perpendicularly to the direction of securement of the connecting rod (3) and on the other hand above the first osseous anchoring portion (6) forming a hook.

4. (Previously Presented) Rachidian anchoring device according to claim 2, wherein the prolongation (24) comprises a recess (25) of U shape opening externally of the prolongation

and having in a vertical direction a second screw-threaded portion (26) coacting with a second pressure screw (27) for the blocking of the transverse rod (5) in said recess.

5. (Withdrawn) Rachidian anchoring device according to claim 2, characterized in that the prolongation (24) comprises two parallel blades (48, 49) separated by a vertical slot (50) opening into a recess (51) for the reception of the transverse rod (5).

6. (Withdrawn) Rachidian anchoring device according to claim 5, characterized in that each parallel blade (48, 49) comprises an inclined surface (52, 53) forming the upper and external portion of a hook and a hooking portion (54) communicating with the recess (51) for the reception of the transverse rod (5).

7. (Previously Presented) Rachidian anchoring device according to claim 2, wherein the second open body (41) of the second pedicular hook (4) comprises two vertical and lateral branches (43, 44) delimiting a U shaped opening (45) comprising a third screw-threaded portion (46) coacting with a pressure screw (47) for the blocking in the bottom of the U shaped opening (45) of the transverse rod (5).

8. (Withdrawn) Rachidian anchoring device according to claim 2, characterized in that the open body (41) of the second pedicular hook (4) comprises two vertical and lateral branches (43, 44) delimiting a U shaped opening (45) comprising, at one of its ends and in a horizontal direction, a cylindrical bore (58) permitting the reception and axial guidance of a locking nut (59) for the blocking of the transverse rod (5).

9. (Previously Presented) Rachidian anchoring device according to claim 4, wherein the transverse rod (5) has a cylindrical profile.

10. (Withdrawn) Rachidian anchoring device according to claim 5, characterized in that the transverse rod (5) comprises a T shaped hooking portion constituted by an axle (55), adjacent the axle (55) parallel flats (56) which are prolonged by a cylindrical and screw-threaded profile (57).

11. (Withdrawn) Rachidian anchoring device according to claim 10, characterized in that the transverse rod (5) comprises at the level of its flats (56) a screw-threaded portion (64) coacting with a locking nut (65) permitting locking the return of the rod to the level of its axle (55) relative to the first hook (2).

12. (Withdrawn) Rachidian anchoring device according to claim 8, characterized in that the nut (59) has a gripping head (60) which is prolonged by a hollow cylinder (61) which is screw-threaded in its internal portion to coact with the screw-threaded profile (57) of the transverse rod (5).

13. (Withdrawn) Rachidian anchoring device according to claim 8, characterized in that the nut (59) can have in the prolongation of its gripping head (60) a hollow cylinder (62) internally screw-threaded and longitudinally cut into several identical portions (63).